

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to nucleotide sequences of the *NIT1* gene and 5 amino acid sequences of its encoded proteins, as well as derivatives and analogs thereof. Additionally, the present invention relates to the use of nucleotide sequences of *NIT1* genes and amino acid sequences of their encoded proteins, as well as derivatives and analogs thereof and antibodies thereto, as diagnostic and therapeutic reagents for the detection and treatment of cancer. The present 10 invention also relates to therapeutic compositions comprising Nit1 proteins, derivatives or analogs thereof, antibodies thereto, nucleic acids encoding the Nit1 proteins, derivatives, or analogs and *NIT1* antisense nucleic acids, and vectors containing the *NIT1* coding sequence.